

A

# REVIEW

OF THE

## Affairs of FRANCE

Purg'd from the Errors and Partiality of *News Writers*  
and *Petty-Statesmen*, of all Sides.

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Saturday, July 8. 1764.

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**H**AVING broke the Thread of our History in the last Paper, on Account of the Clamours rais'd at something formerly express'd, and which wanted Explaining; it has been thought not improper to continue the Digression a little farther, on the occasion of the surprising turn of Affairs in Europe, since our last.

Now, says one of our *constant Cavil Masters*, Where's your *French Power*? Now you have a blow given your *French Greatness*; Now you are a false Prophet.

I am, indeed, no Prophet at all; nor the Son of a Prophet, and yet I had always the foresight to see, and the freedom to say, That the late Attempt of the Duke of Marlborough was the only probable Step, that the whole Confederacy has taken a great while, and must have some extraordinary event; I know most People are fond of saying, after a thing falls out, *we thought 'twould be so*.

But as I am perhaps too apt to speak my Mind, especially when Truth has been in the Case; so who ever thinks it worth their while to look back into these Papers; will find I have express'd my self very freely on that Head.

I am none of the Melancholy Tribe, that

are always crying *Wo, Wo*; I have always wish'd for Victory, and been therefore most forward to look for it, where it was most likely to be found; I could not but wonder at those People, and blame them, who on all occasions would reflect on the Duke of Marlborough's Expedition; and with the usual Air of Slight, cry out, *'twould all come to nothing*, and the like.

I shall enter into no Man's Praises, Panegyrick is none of my Talent; but this is not the first time I have profess'd my Opinion of that Prodigious March of the English Army; viz. That it was the best Concerted Step the Confederates ever took, the least Discovered to the Enemy, and in every Article of it, Embarrass'd them most.

'Tis plain they knew not where the gathering Cloud would break; they expected it now on the Moselle, then on the Rhine; now at Landau, then at Thionville; now in one Place, then in another; nay, till the time that the Duke broke up from Ladenberg on the Neckar, they could be at no certainty which way he would steer, and therefore would never venture to leave the Lower Alsace.

Had the Marschal Tallard, known the Design; 'twas very easie for him to have been at Ulm, before the English Forces;

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but had the Duke of *Marlbrough* then Fac'd about, *Landau* had been lost, and that Conquest was of too much value to be expos'd.

The blow is now struck, and we see the Confederates have entred upon Action, as early as the *Marschal Tullard* has begun his March; but as 'tis agreed on all hands, that he has begun to move, and in all probability may carry his Succours thro' the black Forrest into *Suabia*; for I am willing to suppose the Worst, I am not at all of opinion from thence, that the Duke of *Bavaria's* Affair can be retrieved.

If the *French* pass the black Forrest into *Suabia*, tho' Prince *EUGENE* of *Savoy* will not leave the *Rhine* expos'd to the Troops left behind; yet there is no question, but he will make a large Detachment, which by the Plains of the *Palatinate*, may joyn Prince *Lewin* early enough to enable him to Face the *French*, and at least keep them at Bay while the *English* Army pushes the *Electors* of *Bavaria*.

These are some of the worst Prospects we can propose, and let them that are willing to think the matter will be retriev'd, tell us, what condition the *Bavarian* is in to Defend himself: We all know his Country is open, the Town of *Ingolstadt* is the only Strength he has to depend upon; I believe I may say he has not another that will stand 5 Days open Trenches; and the *French* have 20 days March, besides needful Refreshments, before they can come up to him; mean time the Duke of *Marlbrough* has not march'd so far, and fought so hard for a Victory, and now he has got it, make no use of it.

If I may be allow'd to pass a Judgment on the Affairs of War, now depending, they stood upon this foot before the Action at *Schellenberg*.

The Confederates being Superior to the *Bavarian*, prepar'd to act offensively, and push him to a necessity of complying with the *Emperor*.

The *French* being Superior to the Duke of *Savoy*, were also on the offensive, and equally pushing him to a necessity of

complying with the Demands of the *French* King.

The Success seems to depend upon this, who shall hold out Longest, the Duke of *Bavaria* or the Duke of *Savoy*.

The Duke of *Savoy*, 'tis granted, is hard prest, having lost *Susa*, the principal pass into his own Country; the strong Fortrefs of *Vercelli* being Besieg'd by the Duke of *Vendosme*, and the Diversion which 'twas hop'd would be made on the *Secchia* and the Lower *Po*, if late Advices are True, failing him.

But, there is this Difference still, that the Duke of *Savoy* has yet a great many Capital Places to Defend, which if the Garrisons do their Duty, must cost a great deal of Time, as well as Blood, to be taken; besides this, he has a very good Army unbroken, and yet untouch'd, Commanded by a Politick and brave General, Old Count *Starembergh*; who, together with the Duke, who all Men allow to have Courage enough, seem resolute to dispute their Ground by Inches.

On the other hand, the *Bavarian* has an open Country to defend with a Routed Army, the best and Flower of his own Troops broken and Defeated, and an *English* Army entering the Bowels of his Dominions.

Therefore it seems very probable, the Duke of *Savoy* will hold out longer than the Duke of *Bavaria*.

And from hence, what I have often said appears true, that this March of the Duke of *Marlbrough*, was the only Cast we had for the Confederacy; before, it was but an even Chance, whether *French* Empire or *German* Empire, whether Liberty or Universal Monarchy; and if any odds, it plainly lay against the former.

The *French* are in this, like a Ship wreckt at the entrance of the Port; like a Bride dying on the Wedding Days; and if they have mis'd of the Conquest of *Europe*, it was just when they seem'd to have it in their hands.

Let them that deny this, tell me what could have preventad the *Bavarians* appearing at the Gates of *Vienna*, by the end of July, if this had not been? and if the *Hungarians* with 1500 Men could insult the

*Impe-*



*Imperial* Pallace, what should have resisted a Victorious Army Commanded by a Prince Brave and Ambitious, us'd to Conquest and flush'd with a Series of Success, Pushing at an *Imperial* Crown and ready to snatch it from the Head of the feeble Possessor?

I forbear the very Proper Encomiums here on the *English* Valour and Conduct, the Honour of our Nation in saving the *Empire*, and the Zeal Her Majesty has shewn for the general good of Christendom, in parting with Her Armyes to such remote parts of the World, and spreading the *English* Ensigns on the Banks of the *Danube*, where they were never seen before.

I forbear also a very just Remark on the Obligation the Emperor has on him, to the Protestant Powers of *Europe*, who 'tis plain are the Upholders of his Crown, and the Support of his Family; tho' as Protestants, they really owe him no such Favour.

The first of these I purposely omit, because our Armour is not yet put off; and tho' we have all the reason in the World, to hope for a Compleat Victory, yet the Chance of War is various, and I care not to boast too soon.

I omit the latter, because in the Prosecution of my present Design, I shall have a large stroke upon that Subject.

## ADVICE from the Scandalous CLUB.

AS all the Town has been taken up in the Contemplation of the Victory gain'd by the Duke of *Marlborough*, so the Society have had a great deal of Business upon that Head, several *Malecontents* having been brought before them, who have had Discretion little enough to shew their Regret at the Success, by their Banters on the Circumstances.

A *Mighty Victory* indeed, said the first of these, an *Irishman* I think he was; you had need make such a Noise about it, and make so many Bonfires; Two Troopers and a Dragoon beat a little Boy; when the Duke of *Bavaria* had sent away half his Army, then you could beat him, and you were 3 to 2 before.

This Fellow came with a News-Paper in his hand, call'd a *Postscript* to the *Post-Boy*, which tells us to this Effect, That a strong Detachment of the *Bavarians* being sent away towards *Donawert*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, with a Select Body of Men, follow'd by the whole Army, attack'd their Intrenchments at *Dillengen*; and from hence this Witty Gentleman, as most of the rest of the Town did, being deceiv'd by the wise *Mr. Post Boy*, pretends our whole Army Attack'd the Enemy, when a great part of them were gone another way.

The Society seeing the plain Mistake, Resolv'd,

1. That tho' as it is, 'tis very well, and a Victory Glorious enough, they wish'd it had been so; that the Duke follow'd by the whole Army, had Assaulted, Enstred and Taken the *Bavarian* Intrenchments, and Beaten their whole Army; the Detachment excepted, kill'd no-body knows how many, taken 70 pieces of Cannon, and all the *Et Cetera's*, with which those Gentlemen of News generally amuse us.

2. But as the Victory obtain'd is great enough in its kind, to deserve our Rejoycing, and may be yet greater in its Consequence; the Gentleman was desired to put on his Spectacles again, and read the Gazette; and there he would find that this Fight was only Detachment against Detachment; and that, saving the Superiority of Horse, which is always needful in such Cases, to support the Foot; the Duke March'd with but 6000 Foot, to Attack 12 Battalions, Intrench'd and Fortify'd; so that indeed, the Boy here beat the Troopers and the Dragoon; and therefore this Gentleman was Order'd to be Entred in their Books, as a Reader of false News; and to avoid farther Punishment, was oblig'd to serve in the room of the Hang-man; and burn the News-Paper as a most Ignorant Libel.

A strange Fellow was brought before the Society for a Mad man; his Garb indeed was very



very odd and particular, he had a Coat of  
all the Colours in the Rainbow; great  
Hanging Sleeves down to his Heels, and  
Embroidered all over with Crowns and  
Serpents; he had a swinging great Scimitar,  
a little like that the Painters shew us, with  
which Little David on a day Beheaded Great  
Goliath; he had huge Whiskers, big enough  
to hang ones Hat on, and a Face enough  
to fright a Tartar; he was Arm'd at a mode  
Coffack, with a Bow and Arrows at his  
Back, had a great Horn like a Trumpet  
in his hand, and could speak neither  
English, French, Dutch, Spanish, Italian,  
nor Portuguese: as soon as he came to the  
Society he sounded his Horn three times,  
and made a long Speech, but no-body un-  
derstood a word he said,

The Club was mightily puzzl'd for an  
Interpreter, and for a long Time could  
make nothing of it; they were a going  
to have sent for the Author of the *Day-  
ly Courant*, being an extraordinary Transla-  
tor; but at last a Man was found, that had  
been one of the Czar of Muscovy's Atten-  
dants, and he told the Club, the Man was  
a *Polander*; and came to the Society, from  
the Cardinal Primate, upon extraordinary  
Business; his Christian Names were as long  
as your Arm, but his Sir-Name was, *Izar  
Oblikarinosky*, Cousin German to the Prince  
*Fablanowsky*, of the Late Famous Family  
of the *Renegadowsky's* in Poland.

Having been receiv'd according to his  
Quality, and his Credentials Accepted, he  
presented a large Memorial from the Cardi-  
nal Primate and the Confederate Nobility,  
in Poland, who having a Crown to bestow,  
to who bids most, could find no-body to  
accept of it.

The particulars of the Memorial, since  
they will take some time to Translate,  
together with the Resolution of the So-  
ciety, on this Important Affair, are re-  
fer'd to another time.

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